

PARCEL SERVICE
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for special article on the Israel Industries Exhibition taking place in Haifa from APRIL 24 - MAY 13, 1956

Marginal Column

By BENJAMIN ABRIN

THE approaching elections in America have begun to play a part in the formulation of America's Middle Eastern policies. Observers believe that both the inconclusive results of the Eisenhower-Eden talks and the recent encouraging statement by the Democrats' prospective candidate for the Presidency, Mr. Adlai Stevenson, are both connected with the pre-election atmosphere.

THAT public opinion should influence governmental policy is only proper in a democracy; and that politicians should grow more sensitive to public opinion on election eve is as natural as for students to be more conscientious about their studies on the eve of examinations. The idea that foreign (and colonial) policy should somehow be exempt from the impact of public opinion is a British contribution to modern political thought, not necessarily one of Britain's best contributions, a remnant of a by-gone era in the otherwise admirably developed British democracy.

BUT beyond election-day impacts, beyond even the all-important factor of military, economic and diplomatic self-interest, there are also the basic attitudes of various groups in a given country, pressing them to reach one or another way to a specific problem. In the long run, these attitudes are far more important than election promises. The point I have in mind is the attitude of so many liberal-minded American intellectuals toward the Jewish State. It is particularly important because Mr. Adlai Stevenson is an outstanding leader of this group. Until his recent statement, Mr. Stevenson has displayed towards Israel a coolness which is not unusual for this group. In his special case, it may have been reinforced by his distinguished career in the Department of State, and possibly also by exposure to much anti-Semitism on the part of Israeli personalities and professional politicians whom he does not acknowledge as his mentors pressing him on behalf of a cause in whose validity he does not quite believe. But why doesn't he, and why don't the others like him?

THE answer must be sought in the fact that, unlike liberal intellectuals in central Europe and the East, American liberal intellectuals as a group have never wholeheartedly linked national freedom with human freedom. The American revolution was on behalf of a continent, not of a nationality. Their credo is national self-determination, not religious and racial differences, should be disregarded and overcome rather than perpetuated in the form of national states. Nationalism itself is to them an anachronism. Amalgamation, integration, assimilation, not national segregation, is their answer for America, and they believe it to constitute the ideal answer for all other countries as well. True, Woodrow Wilson adopted the slogan of national self-determination, but then he was a student of comparative government. American intellectuals as a group never accepted this slogan as an ideal, but merely as an unfortunate necessity for those benighted countries and peoples which have not and the true light of the melting pot State in which ethnic differences are, or should be, irrelevant.

LEAST of all do they understand the need for a Jewish State, since Jews - whom they know as the most sophisticated, the most liberal group in America, and the one most insistent on the disregard of ethnic differences, should certainly be beyond that anachronistic longing for a national State. Therefore, when they have to be conceded to Indonesians, Cambodians or Syrians as no longer be needed for Jews. Why, many respectable Jews themselves have gone the full extent of denying that they constitute a nationality at all, and insist on being a mere religious group, and religious differences (except for Pakistan, of course) are certainly no reason for a separate State.

HITLER's persecutions temporarily shattered that attitude. But Hitler is dead, the memory of the massacres has faded, and the essential doubt that there is justification for a Jewish State has come to the fore again. Those whose business it is to explain Israel to America, will do well to devote part of their efforts to winning this kind of vision of so many high-minded, genuinely well-meaning leaders of American opinion, the present titular head and likely present candidate of the Democratic party among them.

Jerusalem, February 7.

Libya Attacked by French Rioters on Algiers Arrival

Settlers Force Catroux to Quit

ALGERS, Monday. — Frenzied French settlers greeted Prime Minister Guy Mollet's arrival here with bitter rioting that forced the new Government's Resident Minister for Algeria, Gen. Georges Catroux, to resign before he was installed.

An estimated 10,000 colonists crowded around the war memorial in the center of Algiers when Mr. Mollet arrived to lay a wreath shortly before landing at the airport. The Premier was immediately pelted with stones and vegetables amid cries of "Death to Mollet" and "Catroux to the walls!"

Police in steel helmets charged sections of the shouting crowd which packed the square. The idea that foreign (and colonial) policy should somehow be exempt from the impact of public opinion is a British contribution to modern political thought, not necessarily one of Britain's best contributions, a remnant of a by-gone era in the otherwise admirably developed British democracy.

In a short speech at the airport, Mr. Mollet appealed to the Algerian population to remain calm, and though he had not come with a "miraculous remedy" for the Algerian problem, his presence in Algeria was aimed at stressing the "indissoluble character" of the links between the North African land and France. He believed deeply in the "Franco-Moors community" and had come to learn more of the needs and wishes of all.

The Premier said he would later deliver a message to the whole Algerian population. But as Mr. Mollet's heavily-escorted car arrived at the war memorial along a road lined with troops and armoured cars, the shouting of the collected crowd rose to a deafening crescendo.

As the Premier stepped from his car, a great roar of approval broke out, but it was quickly silenced by the sound of gunfire. Several Frenchmen at that moment succeeded in reaching the roof of the tallest building in the city, and began throwing down a giant French flag.

Hit by Missiles
The first stones and rotten vegetables began to fall around Mr. Mollet and the official party as the Premier alighted at the airport while the band played the "Marseillaise." Several fragments of vegetable hit the Socialist leader, while some of the missiles caught in mid-air by agile French officers in full-dress uniform.

The crowd began to tear up hunks of earth from the lawn before the hotel and throw them at those at Mr. Mollet also, and at several points the settlers tried to fight their way toward him, resulting in violent clashes with heavily armed police wielding rifles.

As Mr. Mollet, completely impassive under the avalanche of projectiles, made his way to a winding path to the memorial itself, loud explosions filled the air from tear-gas grenades thrown into the gathering mass of French demonstrators. The gas, which did not diminish the ear-splitting shouts of the angry crowd, reached the official party and French officers, officials and more than 100 reporters wiped tears from their eyes.

Other tricolor flags placed on nearby buildings by the authorities were torn down during the ceremony. Mr. Mollet, hustled by aides and police officers, walked quickly to his car as police charged again to push the crowd of projectiles as far away from the Premier as possible. More thunderous shouts of "Death to Mollet" and prolonged booing from the crowd (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Burns Resumes Talks in Damascus Today

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Mr. Gen. E.L.M. Burns flies to Damascus this morning in connection with his discussions on reducing tension on the Syrian-Israeli border. The Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization will be accompanied by his Political Adviser, Mr. Henri Vigier. Gen. Burns will return to Jerusalem this evening.

Gen. Burns' proposals for easing tensions along the two countries are based on the Security Council resolution of January 19. This resolution directs Gen. Burns to arrange an "immediate release of all military prisoners held by both sides."

Israel has agreed to carry out this provision at once; one of Gen. Burns' tasks now is to achieve a similar agreement from Syria.

AFTER MIDNIGHT
The two-day session ended in Tel Aviv on a slight note of relief with a heavy shower of rain which had been preceded by 15 minutes of gusty winds.

Mr. Homer Bigart, of "The New York Times," arrived at the airport for the Israeli assignment from Mr. Harry Gilroy.

Finance Minister Abul Wahab Haumani said after a meeting with the American company's representative, Mr. William Campbell, that Tapline had agreed to increase payments and revise its 1956 agreement with the Government. Tapline now pays Syria \$1,250,000 annually.

3rd Emergency Meeting
A third emergency meeting between the Ministerial Committee and the striking bodies was held last night at 11.30 p.m., but without results.

After the meeting, the spokesman of the Associations declared that they deeply regretted that the Government had compelled them to take this serious step in the present state of emergency, but they saw no other way of protesting against the "utter disregard of their just cause," which had been recognized by the Government in 1955.

According to Histadrut sources, Kupat Holim doctors in the Negrev district decided at a general meeting yesterday not to take part in the strike. They called upon other doctors in their organization throughout the country to accept the Government and Histadrut proposals and to go on working as usual.

The Central Committee of Kupat Holim announced last night that their dispensary, all over the country will be open as usual.

Supplementary Budget
The revenue section of the £110m. supplementary budget for 1955/56 passed its second reading in the House of Commons yesterday after minority amendments were voted down.

The second reading of the expenditure section was begun and the budget as a whole will probably pass its final reading today.

Zero-Hour Cabinet Appeal Rejected
The Cabinet met in special session last night, following the failure of two meetings of the Ministerial Committee to reach agreement with the Medical Association. It did not go beyond the proposals made by the Committee, and transmitted its decision to the Association.

The physicians immediately rejected the request that the strike be postponed in order to continue negotiations on the basis of the proposal of the Ministerial Committee.

It is understood that the period of time in which the Government said it would reconsider the question of the unpaid 40 per cent of the salary increase for 1955 would be something like three years.

The Cabinet also called upon the Medical Association to convene its members today to permit members of the Government to address them.

According to a communication issued by the Cabinet after midnight, the Central Committee of the Engineers' Association has informed the Ministerial Committee that the Association's Council has decided to follow the Histadrut's decision (which opposed the strike). No emergency measures were discussed by the Cabinet, but it is possible that another session will be held today at which the matter will be decided.

Haifa public hospitals will work on a Saturday schedule with only serious cases being received. The Sick Fund and Municipal clinics will run a skeleton service for the day.

Histadrut sources also reported that the secretariat of the Civil Servants Association issued an appeal at a meeting in Tel Aviv last night asking members of the Association not to participate in the strike.

The Committee asked the Government not to have any dealings with unauthorized groups purporting to represent the civil servants.

Dr. Ben-Zion Harel (General Zionist) asked how the country could be expected to attract professionals from abroad when there was discrimination against them in a matter of principle, because of some theory of imaginary equality. The Knesset could not pass over in silence the Government's backing down on its promise.

Miss Esther Wilenska (Communist) said that the payment of the wage increases would not cause inflation; that was being done by the printing of money to finance war preparations. If the subsidies to foreign companies were discontinued, there would be no problem of where to find the money for higher wages.

In his reply, Mr. Eshkol maintained that the Government's duty to preserve the stability of the economy took precedence (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

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